**AACRAO and NACES**

AACRAO was the publisher of the World Education Series beginning in the mid-1950’s. AACRAO also published the Joint Committee on Workshops (JCOW) and the Projects for International Education Research (PIER) Workshop Reports. These print publications, funded entirely by the US Department of State, either entirely or in part, served the international admissions community for 60 years in the evaluation of foreign educational systems and provided placement recommendations for how international applicants should best be placed in the US educational system. In 2004 AACRAO introduced the web-based Electronic Database for Global Education (EDGE) which now contains profiles on over 230 educational systems in the world.

Beginning in 1965 AACRAO provided foreign education evaluators exclusively for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) through a Cooperative Agreement with the Agency’s Academic Advisory Service. The evaluations for USAID were used for their scholarships for Third World students. When the scholarship program ended in 1991 AACRAO’s International Education Services (IES) was enabled to offer the evaluation service to institutions, organizations and the public.

With the availability of AACRAO IES providing evaluations, NACES altered its membership requirements to exclude membership organizations from applying for NACES membership. While NACES membership has a number of attributes, adherence to a set of common standards is not one. Thus NACES member services could evaluate the same foreign credential with different outcomes.

By charter AACRAO IES is committed to following the placement recommendations developed and approved by the National Council on the Evaluation of Foreign Educational Credentials (CEC). The CEC was an inter-associational body made up of 10 educational associations involved in international education exchange. Organizations such as AACRAO, NAFSA, the College Board, the Council of Graduate Schools, the Institute for International Education, AACC and others were members of the CEC. When the CEC disbanded in 2006 it was replaced by AACRAO’s International Education Standards Council (IESC) to fill the same role and function of the CEC by representing the depth and breadth of US higher education.

AACRAO IES evaluations follow the placement recommendations approved by the CEC and the IESC; these recommendations are made independent of AACRAO IES.

AACRAO IES evaluators have all worked at US colleges and universities evaluating foreign education credentials. They have an average of more than 22 years of evaluating experience before coming to AACRAO IES. Collectively AACRAO IES has more than 400 years of foreign credential evaluating experience. Our evaluators have been authors of many World Education Series volumes, participants in PIER Workshops, and regularly present at local, state, national and international conferences on credential evaluation, international admission issues, diploma mills and fraudulent credentials.

We encourage those interested to contact AACRAO IES for a list of our evaluators and their experience. Compare our qualifications with other evaluation services.
In addition to the Credential Evaluation Service AACRAO IES also offers other services:

**Training:**

- Summer Institute for International Admissions – a four day intensive workshop for those relatively new to international admissions. We present the educational systems from the top 25 countries from where foreign students come from to study in the US. We cover freshman, transfer and graduate level admissions. A fourth day is devoted to international student recruitment.
- Winter Institute for International Credit Transfer – a three day hands-on workshop on how to transfer credit from those educational systems that are particularly difficult in determining credit from previous foreign study.
- On-campus training – AACRAO IES staff will come to your campus to deliver training on evaluating foreign credentials specific to your institution’s needs.

**Consultations:**

- AACRAO IES can visit your campus to review your international admissions operations for possible restructuring to streamline and make the process more efficient.
- We also would review your marketing materials and application for admission forms to make such materials more ‘internationally friendly’.